

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone) **CONFIDENTIAL**
SUBJECT Industrial Shortages in Brandenburg

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The Brandenburg government requested reports on the bottlenecks in material requirements of the individual branches of industry to be submitted at the beginning of January 1949. The following lists are the replies which indicate the shortages in these branches.

1. Metal Goods Industry (Eisen, Blech und Metallwaren)

A. Sheet metal shortages are as follows:

- a. "Tiefziehbleche" 0.28, 0.6-1 mm.
- b. Normal sheet iron for commercial goods: 0.6, 0.8, 1.0, 1.25, 1.5, 2.0, 2.5, 3.0 and 4.0 mm.
- c. Steel plate for the manufacture of knife blades: 1.5, 2.0, 2.5, 3.0 and 3.5 mm.

B. Shortages of "Sorteneisen" include the following:

- a. Round bars 4, 6, 8, 10, 13 mm. and thicker for construction anchors.
- b. Square bars 4, 6, 8 mm.
- c. Hoop iron for structural fittings.
- d. Spring steel in the following widths: 5 x 1, 8 x 1.5, 10 x 1.5, 13 x 1.5 mm.

2. Mining Industry

Particularly urgent are the following:

- a. Parts for briquette presses ("Formzungen")
- b. Wire rope, 40-50 mm. in diameter.
- c. Large electric motors.
- d. Electric equipment for locomotives for the clearance of dump piles.
- e. Rails for the mines.
- f. High candle power bulbs.

3. Agricultural Machinery

Requirements include the following types of steel:

- a. Tool steels, alloyed and unalloyed.
- b. High-speed steel for machine tools.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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- c. Spring steel (0.5-1.5 mm.) for wood saws.
- d. Crucible castings or sheet steel 2.3 mm. for blades of agricultural machinery.
- e. Sheet metal 3.6 and 10.12 mm. for ploughshares.
- f. Flat steel for ploughs and shares, measuring 25 x 6, 30 x 8.10, 60 x 20, 65 x 16 and 70 x 16 cm.

4. Engineering Machinery

The following steels are needed:

- a. Steel for general purposes, without any special characteristics.
- b. Steel for crankshafts and drawing rods under medium stress.
- c. Steel for parts of driving mechanisms under little stress, heavily loaded shafts, driving shafts, angled (Gekrüpt) crankshafts, starting cranks, and boring spindles.
- d. Steel for use as listed under c. but for greater stress, namely for parts where space and weight must be saved, as for example in airplane parts, lathe spindles, etc.
- e. Steel for unhardened parts working against one another, such as rudder parts, hard rollers, slip-rings, etc.
- f. Steel for moving parts, subject to great stress, which must have hardness on parts of the surface for durability.
- g. Fine sheet metal for covers, caps, protective plate, etc.
- h. Thick sheet metal for welding construction.

5. Transport Industry

The following steels formerly came from the west and are now lacking: steel bars, tool steels, high speed steels, motorcar springs, steel piping and boiler plates.

- 6. Other requirements are steel rivets, wheel sets, thin wire, tin, measuring tools, nautical instruments for "Seiner", and grinding wheels.

7. Electrotechnics

A list is given of the materials which "must be imported from the west":

- a. Electrolytic condensers -- 12,000
(8 micro farad)
- b. Chrome nickel wire -- 500 kg.
- c. Silver -- 15 kg.
- d. Mercury -- 40 kg.
- e. Magnet steel -- 10 tons
- f. "Trafo" plate -- 30 tons
- g. Nickel alloys -- 50 kg.
- h. Fine sheet plate -- 40 tons.
- i. Steel castings -- 35 tons
- j. Steel bars -- 5 tons
- k. Steel strips -- 35 tons
- l. Acetate silk -- 2 tons.

8. Precision and Optical Instruments

A list is also given of these materials, which "must be imported from the west":

- a. Chrome nickel wire -- 40 kg.
- b. Silver -- 8 kg.
- c. Steel bars -- 45 tons
- d. Steel pipings -- 8 tons
- e. Sheet metal -- 24 tons
- f. Nickel -- 3.6 tons
- g. Mercury -- 2 tons
- h. Fine gold -- 0.1 kg.(sic)
- i. Steel for watch springs -- 1.25 tons.

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